

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (new): A drug-loaded particle formulation method comprising:

adding polymeric particles containing a therapeutic substance to a fluid form of an implantable medical device coating material; and

solidifying the coating material to a film layer wherein the film layer includes the polymeric particles containing the therapeutic substance.

Claim 26 (new): The method of Claim 25, additionally comprising prior to solidification of the coating material, applying the fluid form of the coating material having the polymeric particles added thereto to the implantable medical device.

Claim 27 (new): The method of Claim 25, wherein the implantable medical device is a stent.

Claim 28 (new): The method of Claim 25, wherein the coating material includes a polymeric material.

Claim 29 (new): The method of Claim 25, wherein the coating material includes a polymeric material dissolved in a solvent, wherein the solidification of the coating material comprises allowing the solvent to evaporate.

Claim 30 (new): The method of Claim 25, wherein the polymeric particles are made by water-in-oil emulsion method.

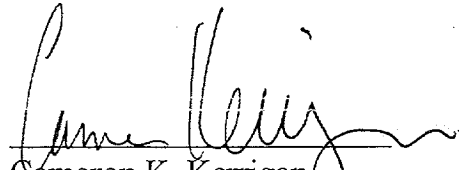
Claim 31 (new): The method of Claim 25, wherein the polymeric particles have a hydrogel consistency.

Claim 32 (new): The method of Claim 25, wherein the therapeutic substance is for the treatment of restenosis.

Claim 33 (new): The method of Claim 25, wherein the therapeutic substance is a radioactive isotope.

Applicants request that the Examiner direct all correspondence to Cameron Kerrigan at the below listed address. A copy of the change of address and power of attorney by the assignee of entire interest is enclosed with the application filing papers.

Respectfully submitted,



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